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SDGI HOLDINGS, INC. [/]; (). BOYD, Lawrence, M. [/]; (). RAY, Eddie, F., III [/]; (). ESTES, Bradley, T. [/]; (). LIU, Mingyan [/]; (). BOYD, Lawrence, M. [/]; (). RAY, Eddie, F., III [/]; (). ESTES, Bradley, T. [/]; (). LIU, Mingyan [/]; (). LOWES, J., Andrew; ().

(54) Title: METHOD AND INSTRUMENTATION FOR VERTEBRAL INTERBODY FUSION

(54) Titre: TECHNIQUE ET INSTRUMENTATION POUR ARTHRODESE INTERSOMATIQUE DU RACHIS

(57) Abstract

A method and instrumentation particularly adapted for disc space preparation from an anterior approach to the spine. In one aspect, an expandable template (10) is provided having guides (26 and 24) to guide a cutting device (601) for bilateral formation of openings in the disc space. In another aspect, an improved guide member (450) is provided for guiding a cutting tool. Still further, the invention provides an improved double barrel guide sleeve (100) with a central distraction extension (116) and lateral non-distracting extensions (118 and 120). Optionally, the guide sleeve (100) includes windows (110 and 112) and a cover (160) to selectively cover the windows. An improved reamer (200) with an internal chamber (209) and optional modular coupling (254) is also provided. A depth stop (326) is provided to selectively engage a tool shaft (360) and a guide sleeve (370) to control tool penetration into the disc space. A method of using the disclosed instruments is also provided.

(57) Abrégé

Technique et instrumentation convenant notamment pour préparer l'espace intervertébral par abord antérieur du rachis. Dans l'un des aspects de l'invention, un gabarit extensible (10) comporte des guides (26, 24) destinés à guider un élément coupant (601) afin de former des ouvertures bilatérales dans l'espace intervertébral. Dans un autre aspect, un élément guide amélioré (450) permet de guider un outil coupant. L'invention concerne également un manchon de guidage (100) amélioré à deux tubes, qui comporte une extension distractive centrale (116) et des extensions non distractives latérales (118, 120). Eventuellement, le manchon de guidage (100) comporte des fenêtres (110, 112) et un couvercle (160) destiné à recouvrir sélectivement lesdites fenêtres. Le manchon peut comporter également un trépan aléseur (200) amélioré, comprenant une chambre interne (209) et éventuellement un dispositif de couplage modulaire (254). Une butée de profondeur (326) permet de bloquer sélectivement un manche d'outil (360) et un manchon de guidage (370), de façon à commander la pénétration dudit outil dans l'espace intervertébral. L'invention concerne également une technique qui permet d'utiliser lesdits instruments.



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US

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Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

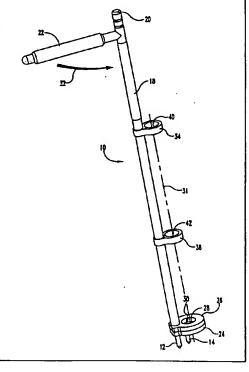
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(54) Title: METHOD AND INSTRUMENTATION FOR VERTEBRAL INTERBODY FUSION

(57) Abstract

A method and instrumentation particularly adapted for disc space preparation from an anterior approach to the spine. In one aspect, an expandable template (10) is provided having guides (26 and 24) to guide a cutting device (601) for bilateral formation of openings in the disc space. In another aspect, an improved guide member (450) is provided for guiding a cutting tool. Still further, the invention provides an improved double barrel guide sleeve (100) with a central distraction extension (116) and lateral non-distracting extensions (118 and 120). Optionally, the guide sleeve (100) includes windows (110 and 112) and a cover (160) to selectively cover the windows. An improved reamer (200) with an internal chamber (209) and optional modular coupling (254) is also provided. A depth stop (326) is provided to selectively engage a tool shaft (360) and a guide sleeve (370) to control tool penetration into the disc space. A method of using the disclosed instruments is also provided.



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Documental	ion searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that s	uch documents are included. In the fields se	arched
Electronic d	ata base consulted during the international search (name of data ba	se and, where practical, search terms used	
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A	WO 94 17759 A (SPINE-TECH) 18 August 1994 (1994-08-18) page 28, line 25 - line 29; figur page 11, line 12 - line 31; figur page 21, line 20 -page 22, line 1	re 28	1,8-10, 36
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X Furt	her documents are listed in the continuation of box C.	X Patent family members are listed	In annex.
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Name and	mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5618 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tet. (+31-70) 340-3016 Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer Nice, P	

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C.(Continua Category *	ation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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International application No. PCT/US 99/07868

Box I Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 1 of first sheet)	
This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:	
Claims Nos.: 37-38 because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:	
Rule 39.1(iv) PCT - Method for treatment of the human or animal body by surgery	
 Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the international Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international Search can be carried out, specifically: 	
3. Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).	
Box II Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of Item 2 of Irrat sheet)	
This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:	
see additional sheet	
As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international Search Report covers all searchable claims.	
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.	
As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:	
No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:	
Remark on Protest The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest. X No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.	

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. Claims: 1-5,36

Templates with parts movable out of alignment

2. Claims: 6-7

Guide for rotary cutting tool

3. Claims: 8-10

Distractor with choice of two distraction heights

4. Claims: 11-26

Double-barrelled guide sleeves

5. Claims: 27-29

Reamer with chamber and communicating channel

6. Claims: 30-32

Depth stop for tool shaft

7. Claims: 33-35

Modular cutting tool

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